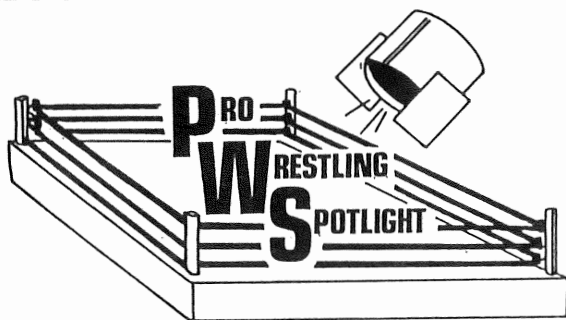




WEEKLY

MARCH 16, 1992

VOLUME I, NO. 10

\$1.50

IT'S STING CAN HE CUT IT AS CHAMPION?

by JOHN AREZZI

Sting is the new WCW World Heavyweight Champion, winning the title against an uninspired Lex Luger at **Superbrawl II**. As he begins his second reign as WCW champ, several questions need to be answered about Sting, the largest one being, can he cut it as a world champion?

Before I get into that, I want to say that it is only fair for Sting to begin his second stint as champion with a clean slate. Let's forget his first run as champ, in the very poorly booked Ole Anderson era. Sting was never given a chance to be a strong champion, hampered by the Black Scorpion angle. That angle did more damage to Sting's credibility than any other run during the six months he held the title.

Watching and reporting on pro wrestling for as long as I have, I've seen many champions. I've seen the champions that were believable (Bruno Sammartino, Dory Funk Jr) to those who I feel were not championship material (The Undertaker, Ultimate Warrior). My idea of a world champion, and how he should be portrayed differs from how the champions of the past several years have been pushed.

A world champion is a fearless man, unafraid of any potential challenger to this title. He never begs for mercy, nor gives any when provoked. His drawing power is based upon the fact that he doesn't wrestle on TV except on rare occasions. The only way to see he champ wrestle is to go to the arena, or in today's day and age, by a Pay Per View show. The champion is the ultimate policeman of the entire Federation he represents. You will see him run in on a televised match if a friend or other scientific styled wrestler is being doubled teamed, triple

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



LATE BREAKING STORY...

WWF BRASS RESIGNS

See Page 3

THE RUMOR MILL

by JOHN AREZZI

Where was Johnny B. Badd on Superbrawl Saturday? Those in the know site a contract dispute which will probably be settled one way or the other by the time you read this. Our bet is that Johnny will stay where he is...The tabloids are jumping all over the alleged child sex abuse scandal unfolding in the WWF. The National Star, The Globe and the TV tabloid Geraldo Show are all calling wrestling insiders non-stop for news and any information. If, in fact, these stories are true, whether they are broadcast on a respected show like "60 Minutes" or on "A Current Affair," or printed in "The N.Y. Times" or "Star," they need to be told so wrestling organizations and those in control will learn never to do this sort of thing again, and fire employees that even think of exploiting kids again. It's a sick world...The Patriot is rumored to finally be in the WWF...Will Hulk Hogan's next WWF appearance at Madison Square Garden this month be his last? **The Rumor Mill** hears that you can bet on it. In fact, Hogan is reportedly telling those close to him that he is leaving...Speaking of Hogan, his home phone number has finally been disconnected. The heat began being turned up a bit too much for the Bollea family. One reporter asked him to comment on Billy Graham to which Hulk reportedly replied, "I haven't heard that name in five years."

The "Godfather" Tony Capone called me and inquired about me becoming the commissioner of his independent group based out of Mt. Vernon, N.Y. I have to think about this. His next show is Saturday, April 25th at Mount Vernon High School. For tickets call Vernon Video at 914-667-4333....The WCW's Wrestlewar is set for May 17th in Jacksonville. Rumored to be in the main event are a team composed of The Dangerous Alliance (Rick Rude, Bobby Eaton, Arn Anderson, Larry Zbyszko and Steve Austin) taking on WCW champion Sting, Barry Windham, Ricky Steamboat, Dustin Rhodes, and the returning Nikita Koloff in a war games match...Tickets for the WCW Meadowlands show on March 31st and for the Philly Civic Center on April 5th should be on sale by the time you read this...Thanks for your support and the great turnout for our recent live remote broadcast at the Press Box Cafe in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn on February 23rd. We hope to be back there again on March 29th.

STING - Continued from Page 1

teamed or worse after taking a pinfall. When he appears on TV for an interview, he is in street clothes, always holding what is priceless to him, the championship belt. The championship belt is held in high esteem, if it is damaged by a foe, if it is spit on, or stepped on, or used as a weapon, the champion will avenge it's being disrespected. The champion will face all challenges, from hated villain to cheered hero. He will be seen visiting children's hospitals, homeless shelters, and give seminars at high schools and colleges on the dangers of drugs for recreation or athletic enhancement. He sets up a scholarship fund at his high school or university. He loves pro wrestling and feels fortunate to hold such an esteemed place in the sport.

Reading the above, can anyone place the new WCW champion in that category. Certainly not, at least not today. WCW needs to push a man with the above qualities (or at least give him those qualities). The champion has got to be special, standing tall above everyone in the Federation.

Right now Sting is in an important role, the most important role he has ever had in his career. With the WCW breathing down Titan Sport's neck for the first time, it is time everyone tells Sting how important he is to the company, and to the future of pro wrestling. With the steroid scandal, the sexual abuse stories now dominating the tabloids and shock TV shows, wrestling needs a pure and wholesome character to push as a role model, not just to kids, but to all pro wrestling fans. Can Sting cut it? Is he the man? We can only hope he is. However, if Sting is not ready, or, not the right man to take on the responsibility of being a champion, then begin a search to find someone who is. There is not going to be a better time than the next six months to propel WCW and its world champion to the forefront of the industry.

My ideal champion is just one man's opinion. But, if the powers that be in WCW want their champion to be a special man, they should think about some of what I wrote. They've chosen Sting to carry the torch of the Frey led WCW. We can only wish them the best.

NEWSBRIEFS

MORE MUSHNICK NEWS

Phil Mushnick of the **N.Y. Post** continues to publicize all the WWF problems. In his second column in one week on Titan troubles, Mushnick wrote --

The World Wrestling Federation continues to take on water. This week's Village Voice reports that ex-WWF performer Barry "Barry "O" Orton recently appeared on a radio show over KVEG in Las Vegas and said out loud what has been whispered about for years -- that WWF male executives engage in sexual harassment via a casting couch for male wrestlers. Orron provided details of one such episode in which he claims to have been repeatedly subjected to the advances of a WWF exec.

Meanwhile, WWF performer Kerry Von Erich was arrested for drug possession, a lengthy WWF drug expose is expected in next week's L.A. Times, and a lawsuit alleging sexual abuse of underaged boys by WWF staffers is expected to be filed in New York Federal Court early next month. Furthermore, ABC's "20/20" has tentatively scheduled March 13 to air a piece that, in part, points to steroid abuse within the WWF.

And all this comes after allegations from ex-WWF stars Superstar Billy Graham and David "Dr. D." Shultz that the WWF is lousy with illegal drugs and sexual exploitation, and that they personally watched or helped kiddie hero Hulk Hogan inject steroids "hundreds of times." And these allegations arose following a trial in which a Pennsylvania doctor, George Zahorian, was convicted of distributing steroids to several WWF stars, including Rowdy Roddy Piper.

Look for Phil to continue to be one of the few mainstream media columnists to follow each breaking story on the WWF in his "Equal Time" segment.

PATTERSON & GARVIN LEAVE TITAN SPORTS

by JOHN AREZZI

As we go to press, PWSW has learned that two Titan Sports vice presidents, Pat Patterson and Terry Garvin have resigned their positions in the company, effective Tuesday, March 2, 1992.

This past Wednesday (3/4/92) Phil Mushnick included the following in his column "Equal Time."

Two of the World Wrestling Federation's most powerful executives - Pat Patterson and Terry Garvin - resigned Monday. The resignations came on the heels of a proliferation of reports that the WWF is headed for an enormously damaging sex and drug scandal.

Patterson, a former WWF star, was the organization's vice president in charge of wrestling talent. Garvin, an ex-pro wrestler of modest fame, was Patterson's assistant. The resignations came three days after a WWF news release branded a report in The Post of impending sex-related lawsuits vs. the WWF as "irresponsible" and "reckless."

WWF president Vince McMahon said yesterday that Patterson and Garvin tendered their resignations with no admissions of wrongdoing, but rather out of loyalty to the company and because they have been the targets of "unfair innuendo" that's harmful to the WWF.

Garvin's name was recently mentioned on Mike Tenay's Las Vegas Wrestling Insiders Radio Show by former WWF wrestler Barry Orton. Orton alleged that homosexual harassment was commonplace in the WWF, and that while employed by Titan Sports, Garvin approached him on at least one occasion, propositioning him to engage in homosexual sex.

Patterson was second in command at Titan Sports, just under Vince McMahon. Garvin served as vice president of wrestling operations, his responsibilities included supervising the ring crew and choosing extras (jobbers) to put over the stars of the WWF at television tapings.

Titan Sports spokesman Steve Planamenta was unavailable for comment at press time. Titan Sports issued a press statement answering recent published charges, but not mentioning the resignations of Patterson and Garvin. It reads as follows:

"The N.Y. Post has published a story containing serious, yet unsubstantiated charges about the World Wrestling Federation (WWF). We want to categorically state that the WWF and its parent company, Titan Sports, do not and will not tolerate illegal or improper behavior by any of our employees at any time. We will take responsible action regarding any legitimate claims filed through lawful channels.

"However, Titan Sports, Inc., and the WWF feel no obligation to respond to charges that cannot be reasonably substantiated. Further, our attorneys have advised us to urge all news media and others to consider the credibility and the motives of any accuser before irresponsibly making public reckless charges, which are not grounded in fact, and which may have been made with malicious intent."

More details will be published in next week's PWSW.

SUPERBRAWL II RESULTS

by JOHN AREZZI

Ed Note: Because of our late breaking cover story, coverage of WCW's Superbrawl II must be curtailed.

"Flyin" Brian Pillman defeated Jushin "Thunder" Liger in 18 minutes to regain the WCW Light Heavyweight Championship. Match rating. ****½

Marcus Alexander Bagwell pinned Terry Taylor in seven minutes. Match rating **½

Ron Simmons pinned Cactus Jack in seven minutes, catching Cactus, who attempted to jump on him from the second turnbuckle. Simmons reversed the move into a power slam. Match rating ***. Abdullah the Butcher came to Cactus' aid, while Junk Yard Dog assisted Simmons.

Van Hammer and the Z Man defeated Vinny Vegas and Ricky Morton, with Z man pinning Morton in 12 minutes.

Barry Windham and Dustin Rhodes defeated Stunning Steve Austin and Larry Zbyszko in 17 minutes with Windham pinning Zbyszko after giving him a flying clothes line off the top rope. Match rating ****

Bobby Eaton and Arn Anderson successfully retained their WWF World Tag Team Titles by defeating the Steiner Brothers by disqualification after 21 minutes. Match rating **

Rick Rude pinned Ricky Steamboat in 22 minutes to retain his WCW U.S. heavyweight title. In an earlier angle shot backstage, Manussa got Steamboat's bodyguard Ninja to chase her. When Steamboat came to the ring, the Ninja was with him. During the bout finish Steamboat was scaling the ropes in an attempt to dive on Rude when the Ninja struck him twice on the head with a portable telephone. Steamboat was then pinned. In the dressing room Missy Hyatt discovered that Paul E. Dangerously was in the Ninja outfit. Match rating ***

Sting pinned Lex Luger with a cross body tackle off the top rope in 13 minutes to win the WCW world title. An uninspired match. Luger was so juiced up he made Sting look like Lee Scott. The match finished earlier than it was supposed to. Sting and Luger embraced at the end, which was not shown on camera. Sting was in the ring alone which seemed anticlimactic after winning the world's title. Afterwards they filmed an angle (not yet shown on TV at press time) where The Dangerous Alliance attacked Sting at a post match press conference. Match rating **

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PRO WRESTLING SPOTLIGHT WCW BUS TRIPS ANNOUNCED

Pro Wrestling Spotlight Enterprises has announced our first two bus trips of 1992. March 31st (Tuesday night) we will head to the Meadowlands for the big WCW show. We will leave from the Long Island Expressway Park and Ride (Exit 49 on the westbound side) at 6 p.m. sharp.

On Saturday, April 4th, we'll head to the intimate surroundings of Pennsylvania Hall at the Philadelphia Civic Center for the WCW show. The bus for the Philadelphia show will leave from the studios of WEVD, 770 Broadway (9th Street and Broadway in New York City) at 4 p.m.

Listen to the Radio Hour Sunday at 10 p.m. on 1050 AM WEVD for more details, or call us at 516-698-0109 to make your reservations and to find out prices.

SPEAKING OUT ON SUPERBRAWL II

by VINCE RUSSO

- The excitement generated during the Pillman/Liger match was the most that I have seen in a long time.
- How do you put a Marques Alexander Presley over a guy like Terry Taylor?
- Go ahead, put a bullet through my head, but I enjoyed the Junk Yard Dog angle.
- Was it me, or was that the best Vinnie Vegas/Oz/Master Blaster/Kevin Nash ever wrestled?
- Aren't we starting to see too many matches putting members of the Dangerous Alliance against Rhodes, Steamboat and Windham?
- Why is Ricky Morton still hanging around?
- What exactly does Madussa get paid for?
- The Steamboat/Rude match was fair, but it couldn't hold a candle to Steamboat/Savage Wrestlemania III.
- Why not give the Steiners the belts?
- Why doesn't Missy Hyatt **can** the dumb blonde routine?

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ON THE LIGHTER SIDE WITH SPECIAL GUEST

JOHNNY B. BADD

by VINCE RUSSO

Age: *Over 20 and under 40.*

Married: *Not yet.*

Hobbies: *I try keeping my pretty body in shape by working out, lifting weights, and doing a lot of aerobics.*

Favorite foods: *Chicken, rice, potatoes, and spaghetti.*

Favorite movies: *Rocky and E.T.*

Favorite movie star: *Gotta be Little Richard.*

Favorite TV show: *Coach*

Favorite cartoon character: *I like that Foghorn Leghorn character. He's always trying to do something good, but he's always getting into trouble.*

Favorite music: *50's and 60's rock-n-roll.*

Favorite athlete: *Wayne Gretzky.*

Favorite wrestler: *Gorgeous George. I liked the flamboyance that he first brought to wrestling. Dusty Rhodes also showed great flamboyance.*

Most hated wrestler: *When I was a kid I hated Fritz and Kurt Von Erich.*

What kind of sneakers do you wear: *Nike Air Pumps.*

If you could be someone else for a 24 hour period, who would you be? *President of the United States. I'd be a BADD man. I would change a lot of things as far as helping out the homeless, and helping out our own people in the United States. We're doing too many things for so many countries, and not worrying enough about our own people.*

Who would you want to be marooned on a deserted island with? *A very sincere, caring person with a heart as big as mine. I would then start a new generation of some BADD kids.*



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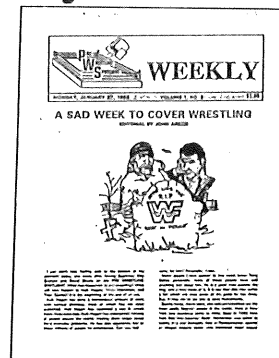
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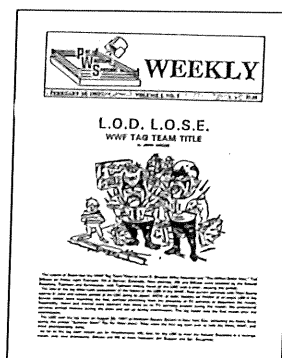
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WHY BADD IS GOOD AND STEVIE IS BAD

by VINCE RUSSO



As the late, great John Lennon once sang, "I read the news today, oh boy." *WWF To Face Suit Alleging Child Sex Abuse*. Is this a sick world we live in, or what? I am deeply disturbed by this story. Whether it's true or false almost doesn't matter. How could the WWF become involved in something like this? What about all the children that are fans, how will this affect them? How do you explain this to them after they read the article in the New York Post? And how will the WWF handle this? At press time, Steve Planamenta, head of public relations for Titan Sports was unavailable for comment. **Unavailable for comment?** Are you kidding me? As a parent I want answers, don't give me your spineless **unavailable for comment!** What the hell are you guys doing up there in Titan Towers? You think that you can have a secretary say that you are "unavailable for comment," and all these allegations are just going to disappear? I studied public relations for four years at Indiana State University, I know that this is not the "professional" way to handle this situation.

In the past couple of weeks I have taken some criticism from other sheet writers for as they say "going to bat" for the WWF. I have given them the benefit of every doubt, realizing that in the end it will be the children who are hurt by their dirty laundry. But this is ridiculous. **Unavailable for comment**, how the hell can I try to make excuses for that? For heaven sakes, come up with something!

A few weeks ago I telephone Steve Planamenta to request an interview with Chief Jay Strongbow for my "Where Are They Now" column. Planamenta said that he "had to think about it," because he wasn't happy with the comments made by **PWSW** regarding the WWF. He claimed that the WWF could take criticism, however, our newsletter printed blatant lies about the organization. Needless to say, he failed to tell me what those lies were. Just out of curiosity, how can we find out the "so-called" truth, when every time we call Planamenta, he doesn't return our calls and he is forever **unavailable for comment**. After my first conversation with Planamenta I wrote a much heated editorial that I had all set for print. However, I **pulled it**. I wanted to give Steve Planamenta and the WWF the benefit of the doubt. I figured for the sake of our readers, and our listeners, I was going to make very effort to try and work with the WWF. I took a "they're right -- I'm wrong" attitude. A week has passed since then and I am now certain of one thing -- **I'm right -- they're wrong**. There is **no** working with Steve Planamenta and the WWF. Forget it, it's a dead issue. After four unreturned phone calls I am starting to get the picture. It's their way of saying its our way, or no way. I guess it will have to be no-way. You bozos are not **GOD**, in fact you're very far from it. Those who are God-like would not be accused of child sex abuse. You're not going to be able to turn your backs on this one. As this story grows, sponsors will start dropping you like flies.

You'd better call a meeting, or do something. **Unavailable for comment**, I just can't get over that. I was trying to protect you. I was trying to interview some old-timers to help take off the heat and give you some positive publicity. You had to think about that? Well huddle up fellas, because you have a helluva lot of thinking to do now.

After this fiasco I sat at my desk beaten and bewildered. "Is this America?" I thought. "Is this what it's all about?" On a pile of notes I saw a telephone number of Johnny B. Badd of WCW fame. I decided to call him hoping that the WWF and their **unavailable for comment - alleged child sex abuse - steroid/cocaine scandals** are not what professional wrestling exemplifies. After being greeted with a Love Ya Baby, Love Ya, I was right. This is the side of professional wrestling I want to hear about. This is the side of professional wrestling I want my children to see. This is what professional wrestling should represent.

To be honest with you, I wasn't a big Johnny B. Badd fan. Yes, he can wrestle. Yes, he is a great showman. And yes, he earns his money. But if you know me, you know I'm a Cactus Jack man. Well Cactus, slide over just a bit, I am now a BADD man. This human being is incredible. In this day and age you forget that people like this really do exist. Here are some quotes from the BADD one himself.

"I do a lot of charity work for kids. I've seen over 1,000 people this week., Yesterday I visited the Scottish Rites Children's Hospital, and last week I visited Carnilla Nursing Home and Egleston Children's Hospital.

"I spread my messages to the kids. Say no to drugs. Stay clean if you know that I mean. Don't be a fool, stay in school. If you're not on the honor roll, you won't be on the payroll.

"Wrestlers are not giving back to the people. The only reason we're in the position we're in is because of the

wonderful people. I wish more wrestlers would get involved in our community.

"A year ago today I was unemployed digging in-ground swimming pools. I am blessed to be where I am.

"I always tell people about when I was a kid and I met O.J. Simpson. I'll never forget that feeling. If I can only give that back to some people.

"I answer every fan letter I receive. Last weekend I called a person who was having a heart and lung transplant. They couldn't believe it, but it was a bigger thrill for me.

"When it comes to kids I don't want any money. I don't ask for nothing.

Read those quotes. Read them again. Have your children read them. Steve Planamenta if you are reading this, cut out those quotes and tape them to your forehead. This represents what a professional wrestler "should" be. This is what parents want their children to hear. This is what I wanted to get from your WWF wrestlers. But you had to "think about it," 'nuff said.

After speaking to Johnny I felt as if clean fresh air had been pumped throughout my entire body. I am going to attempt to start a Johnny B. Badd fan club with all proceeds going to charity.

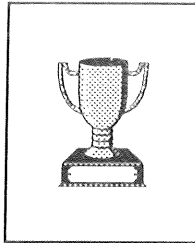
Parents, there is hope. There are wrestlers out there like Johnny B. Badd. Wrestler who do care about your children. Johnny informed me that just last week Van Hammer, and Marques Alexander Bagwell visited a few children's hospitals with him. Don't get me wrong, I'm sure that there are a lot of WWF'ers who do work for charity, but I couldn't be sure because I'm not allowed to talk to them.

In closing I would just like to inform Steve Planamenta that its alright if you choose to sit up in your office with your door locked, because before long nobody is going to want to come in anyway.



HERE ARE MY PREDICTIONS FOR THIS YEAR'S WWF AND WCW ACADEMY AWARDS

BY VINCE RUSSO



	WCW	WWF
Best Actor	Cactus Jack	Undertaker
Worst Actor	Marcus Alexander Bagwell	Harvey Wippleman
Best Actress	-----	Sherri Martell
Worst Actress	Medussa	Elizabeth
Best Supporting Actor	Paul E. Dangerously	Paul Bearer
Worst Supporting Actor	Van Hammer	Tatanka
Best Manager	Paul E. Dangerously	Sherri Martel
Worst Manager	Medussa	Harvey Wippleman
Best Make-up	Sting	Paul Bearer
Worst Make-up	Missy Hyatt	Sherri Martel
Needs Make-up	Abdulla the Butcher	Sid Justice
Best Costume	Cactus Jack	Randy Savage
Worst Costume	Bryan Pilman	Vince McMahon
Best Hair-do	Cactus Jack	Nobody in the WWF has hair
Worst Hair-do	Missy Hyatt	Vince McMahon
Best Interview	Cactus Jack	Randy Savage
Worst Interview	The Steiners	Sid Justice
No Interview	Abdulla the Butcher	Steve Planamenta
Best Announcer	Jim Ross/Jesse Ventura	Bobby Heenan
Worst Announcer	Missy Hyatt	Sean Mooney/Alfred Hayes

WHERE ARE THEY NOW with BO BO BRAZIL

PRO WRESTLING SPOTLIGHT WEEKLY: Tell me about the beginning. How did you become involved in professional wrestling?

BO BO BRAZIL: Well, in my home town right here in Benton Harbour, there was an old-time wrestler by the name of Jumpin Joe Savolli. He was promoter in this town, he brought wrestling here once a week. I used to hang around and set up the ring for him. As a matter of fact, I loved setting up the ring, they even paid me \$5 for it. That's really how I got into it. One day I said to him, "I'd like to be a wrestler myself." He said, "You're big enough, why don't you be?" I then trained for about six months with a guy by the name of Rick Sealy. I was quick to catch on.

PWSW: How did the name Bo Bo Brazil come about?

BBB: It's a funny thing, I was given the name Bu Bu. As a matter of fact I'm glad it didn't last. I got booked in Minneapolis by a promoter named Jack Guy. He sent in the publicity which read: "Bu Bu Brazil from Benton Harbor, Michigan." Some guy from Minneapolis got it messed up, instead of spelling it Bu Bu, he spelled it Bo Bo. So it stuck. I'm glad it did stick and I wasn't Bu Bu.

PWSW: How did the infamous head butt come about?

BBB: That came by from an old timer named the Black Panther. His real name was Jimmy Mitchell and he was from Toledo, Ohio. He was a headliner from this town. I used to just sit there and watch him, and I noticed he used a head butt. One night I asked him, "How do you use that damn thing like that?" He said, "Nothing to it

son, this is a good thing to use if you want to become a wrestler." He called it the head butt, I changed it to the co-co butt. I figured that had a better ring to it.

PWSW: Where did you go from Michigan?

BBB: I went all over the world man. I've been around the world five times. This is the greatest thing that ever happened to me. Wrestling has been very good to me. I can't knock it one way.

PWSW: How many years did you spend with the WWWF?

BBB: I wrestled for the old man. Vince, Sr. was a real nice guy. I started with him in around '61 -- and he was a very good promoter. I'd leave, I'd come back.

PWSW: What separated Vince Sr from the other promoters.

BBB: He knew how to treat his fellow man. He knew how to treat the guys that were wrestling for him. He wasn't a hollerer or screamer. He'd tell you something -- he didn't holler or scream. He was just a kind man. He was alright with me.

PWSW: Did you also work under Vince, Jr?

BBB: Yes, I did.

PWSW: What were the major differences between the two?

BBB: Junior, he was a go-getter. He was a better hustler than the old man. That's why the kid got so far today. You got to spend money to make money. Vince, Jr, he went out and spent that money, that's why he's so great today. I wish I had been coming along right now.

Continued on Page 10

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BO BO BRAZIL - Continued from Page 8

PWSW: What are the most memorable moments of your career?

BBB: One of my first highlights was when I first went to Japan. It was one of the greatest things that happened to me. I went to Japan in 1957. We traveled on those old smoke-stack trains, you had to kick them damn windows down. When you went through a tunnel, all that smoke would come back at you. You really had to see those days to believe them. Now they have that bullet that runs so damn fast that you could hardly see it.

PWSW: How would you compare wrestling now to when you were in your hey-day?

BBB: It's a little changed, but the wrestling is the same. It's the same today as it was then.

PWSW: How do you feel about steroids?

BBB: I never did believe in that. We had a few guys messing around with the stuff, but not like today. You may see one wrestler out of a dozen in my day. Guys worked out hard. They got the muscles from the iron. Damn, they use that stuff now and it's terrible.

PWSW: Where do you think professional wrestling is headed?

BBB: You know, I really don't know. I'd be afraid to say.

PWSW: From what I understand, you still wrestle.

BBB: Not too much, just a little bit. To keep myself going. Maybe once or twice a month.

PWSW: What else do you do to keep busy?

BBB: I don't do nothing, I don't do a thing.

PWSW: Just watch old Bo Bo Brazil tapes?

BBB: (Laugh) I don't even watch wrestling on television. Unless my kids have it on, and I may glance at it. It do something to me. As a matter of fact, I retired for several years, then I started watching wrestling on TV and I said, "Hell, I'm going to get back into it. I can do some of those things better than those guys."

BOOB TUBE BASHINGS & BRAVOS

by VINCE RUSSO

Why does Vinnie waste everybody's time by replaying the Saturday Nite Main Event matches on Prime Time? Doesn't make any sense, does it?

What a lame explanation of the L.O.D./I.R.S.-Million Dollar Man/Natural Disasters situation. It almost sounded like a soap opera. And of all people to try and explain it - Lord Alfred Hayes? Poor, poor scenario. Why not just say that the Million Dollar Man and I'm Really Stupid beat L.O.D. for the tag titles, and then have the Natural Disasters turn on Jimmy Heart on television?

Is it a perverted mind that gets off on seeing kids scared to death, or what? Here we go all over again, Papa Shanga and his voodoo art. You think that when Vince's kids were small he used to put on Halloween masks and try to scare the hell out of them? -- I do.

Sid Justice's interviews annoy me. Why doesn't this man open his mouth when he talks, Do you think he might have been Sharri Lewis in another life? His hair does kind of resemble Lamb Chop's.

In setting up the Funeral Parlor, Vince chose to again show the snake biting/woman slapping incidents. Even

with all the heat he's received over these two incidents, he still continues to replay them. **SICK, SICK, SICK.**

I felt the Funeral Parlor was done effectively. I truly enjoyed the Jake/Undertaker/Paul Bearer angle. I think *I look more forward to this match-up at Wrestlemania VII, than any other.

Remember about 5 issues back I predicted the Undertaker would turn baby face. Well here's my next prediction: Shawn Michaels will be the next Intercontinental Champion.

WCW

In a light television schedule due to Superbrawl II, we saw the team of Greg Valentine and Terry Taylor take the United States tag-team straps from Bib Josh and Ron Simmons. When's the last time Greg Valentine wore a championship belt? To add to that, nobody deserves to wear the gold around his waste more than Terry Taylor. The Taylor Made Man is **the** most underrated wrestler in the world today.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

I recently ran into a high school buddy of Cactus Jack's. He informed me that as a lacrosse goaltender in high school, Cactus had an extremely unusual ritual he practiced before each game.

Jack would dig up the dirt in front of the goal he was defending, and rather gracefully pick earth worms out of the ground and **eat them** to psyche out his opponents.

Believe it or not? I **believe** it.

THE WRESTLING MENU

by DONNY LAIBLE

I am feeling good and here's why (Drum roll, please) -- with all the problems sprouting within the World Wrestling Federation, even with some predicting the end is near for the business as we know it -- my cable system now carries Sports Channel New York. That means the International World Class Championship Wrestling tapes every Sunday! Give me IWCCW and Global -- let there be a nuclear war, I bet those tapes survive. So you think that's weird...I have an autographed photo of the late Nick Gulas framed in my office.

Does Bob Backlund have the biggest smile on any wrestler's face in America today? Wonder why...Speaking of faces, with the looks nature supplied Baron Von Raschke, damn it I say -- there must be a place for him with the WWF or World Championship Wrestling (must be that steroid physique working against him)...Quiz time, refresh my memory -- what does DDT stand for? Getting back to Backlund, why doesn't WCW fly him in for TV (whoops! Missy was allotted the last of the big bucks), he can work a match and host his own "Know Your Holds" segment. a) Bob isn't on steroids, b) his wrestling knowledge would solidify him to the public as a credible athlete with a "legitimate" background, and c) during Bob's visits south he can train the Van Hammers. I rest my case, now you the jury -- send me your verdict.

Eric McHugh tells us the Cowtown Coliseum in Fort Worth, Texas and at Fort Bragg, North Carolina (Clash

1989) are the two favorite arenas for TV wrestling he's seen. Concerning Clash #7, Eric states, "The crowd was loud as HELL, the front row was practically on the ring apron, it was over 100 degrees in the building, and of course we saw the debut of The Ding Dongs."

A word to autograph collectors -- former NWA Champion Gene Kiniski is extremely cooperative in signing and returning materials sent (unlike a certain ex-pro who's initials are Tex McKenzie). You would be surprised of the "goodies" Gene sends back. John Tolos is another swell guy when requesting his signature. Anyone interested in contacting these or other old timers, pass me a SASE...What's with J.W. Storm getting bookings in Titan land -- I thought the company wanted to avoid the Superman look?...Now I'm really hot under the collar -- WCW has taken Gordon Solie off the air from doing the WNN segments. The only way I won't hold my breath in protest is if they replace him with Lance Russell...Eric Bischoff needs more seasoning -- send him to the IWCCW, (wait a minute, that's my favorite group) rather ship him back to Gagne's group. They're out of business, you say. Oh, what the heck, Paul E. -- smack him on the head a few times with your telephone, it may help.

Am I only the only one who misses the Lee Press-On Nail commercials?...Sign recently rumored to be hanging in a WWF dressing room -- "It's better to feel good than to look good, and you know who you are"...I have \$10.00 ready to start up a fund calling for a match between Abdullah the Butcher and Rev. Al Sharpton, do I hear \$11.00?...With Bossman, IRS, Vinnie Vegas and Mr. Hughes working in their clothes, one more wrestler taking up that dress code could put K&H Originals out of business...How pitiful it was to see and hear Mel Phillips hawking the latest merchandise on sale at the Utica, NY show this past week...For a minute there I thought my buddy Dr. Bob and I were at a circus...Rip Rogers deserves a push, anywhere. If you remember Lee Wong or Thomas Marin, don't go anywhere help is on the way...And finally, just how long has Professor Elliott Marion been attending the matches in New York City? Did he get his degree from the same educational think tank as Dr. Mark Curtis?

Attention readers in the south, Steve Tartas, 962 80th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11228 needs your assistance. He's looking to purchase or trade tape tapes for the old Florida and Memphis shows from the early 1980's. Steven is also planning a trip to Nashville and Memphis early this summer. Attending a Saturday morning TV taping at WMC -- is a must for him. Show the man some SPOTLIGHT kindness and set him up...The WRESTLING WORLD EXAMINER published by Paul Adamovic, PO Box 303, Irvington, NY 10533-4303 is a bi-weekly for \$1.00 per issue. The latest copy came with a great color shot of The Honky Tonk Man. Interviews, results and special attention paid to the independents are part of Paul's product. The WWE will be coming out with a yearbook...THE WRESTLING FLYER put out by J.B. Clark, PO Box 283, Wallingford, PA 19086 is sent out monthly and sells for \$2.00. Lots and lots of info crammed in the February issue. Great interview with Ivan Koloff plus WWF booking schedule for the next two months, etc...

Boyce Johansen, 5424 W. 69th Ave, Arvada, CO

80003 offers his WRESTLE-GRAM for \$2.50. The monthly read is usually 40 pages of news and results...Do yourself a favor, take a \$1.50 and send it to Andrew Goldberger, PO Box 6, Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776. His FROM THE RING is a fun read. In the latest issue he has letters from Demolition Crush and Steve Williams, indie promoters telling what it costs to put on shows and why, plus other insiders telling of their experiences. Andrew is a bright kid (although, not The Kid) and his work is going to surprise many people.

Remember sports fans, your comments, suggestions and whatever else is on your mind about our favorite pastime -- I'm always interested in hearing from you -- Donny Laible, PO Box 443, Ilion, NY 13357.

MAT MEMORIES

by JOHN AREZZI

Everyone who knows me probably realizes it would take a freight train to knock me off my feet. Although I am not an advocate of fighting, I have had my share of altercations in my life. I've never run from a fight except one time, and that was when I was attacked by a midge welding a hammer. Please stop laughing and read on.

Each week I broadcast the Pro Wrestling Spotlight Radio Hour I feel grateful to be on the air. As a time broker, the air time must be purchased from the station. The PWS currently airs on 1050AM WEVD. I get a thrill each week, knowing there are thousands of mat fans listening to the show. That was not the case when I first began the Pro Wrestling Spotlight back in 1975, 17 years ago back in college. I had few listeners back then, but they were vocal especially one of them.

Grahm Junior College was a two year academic institution, specializing in the broadcast arts. Entering the school as a freshman in '75, I had two loves, the New York Mets and pro wrestling. I was hoping my time at Grahm would prepare me for a career in either baseball or wrestling.

Our college station was a small one, operating in the basement of one of the buildings in the school. Our power was minimal, reaching a few miles, and that was it. Because of my love for wrestling, and my hopes for a career in it, I decided to try to get a wrestling talk show on the college station.

I'll never forget auditioning my idea to the sports director and program director of the station. The sports director was adamantly opposed to the show, his belief being pro wrestling was not a sport. The program director was liberal in his thoughts. He was a closet wrestling fan as well. So, he gave approval for the show.

We debuted The Pro Wrestling Spotlight in October of 1975. The first guest on the program was the Grand Wizard. He lived in Malden, Massachusetts, and became a frequent call-in regular to the show. We must have done something right as the show clicked in and around the dorms. People loved the show. The popularity surprised me, but irritated the sports director, Lester Singleton.

Lester was a dwarf, standing under four feet. But, he argued his beliefs as strong as someone six feet tall. He hated pro wrestling. He hated my show. And, he didn't

hide that fact privately, or publicly. We would frequently debate the validity of pro wrestling. I used to get him hopping made, as the content of my show and all my public comments about wrestling protected the business. Never did I talk about wrestling in unflattering terms. Never did I say bouts were predetermined. The more I stood my ground, the angrier the little guy got, until the situation exploded in December 1975.

During my year end broadcast, December 13, 1975, Lester called my show to debate pro wrestling with me. On this particular show I had all the answers about this gigantic debate on whether or not pro wrestling was a sport. After about 10 minutes of non-stop argument I was getting frustrated because Lester would not shut up, and I wanted to get on to my feature of the week, part two of the Bruno Sammartino story, which was given to me by Bill Apter. I finally got Lester to hang up. The second he hung up I said something under my breath which the microphone picked up and carried over the airwaves, "c__sucker." You would not believe what happened next. To this day I still don't.

After I mentioned that word, I lost control in the studio. My engineer, co-host for the show, and everyone else in the studio began laughing hysterically. I thought I was finished, that the show was through. I was worried, but what followed was the most bizarre thing that has ever happened to me. After the show I headed back to my dormitory to get ready for a Christmas party. Of course, at the dorm all my friends were ribbing me about the broadcast. I arrived at the party and who do you think was there? It was Lester. He was wearing a Santa Claus hat and was feeling the effects of a few too many

alcoholic beverages. "Mr. Arezzi," he slurred, "Don't you owe me an apology?" Looking down at him I just started laughing. He looked funny to me, until the next second. "C__sucker," he screamed, "C__sucker, your the c__sucker!" And he attacked me! He was flailing away, punching and kicking. Everyone at the party started laughing. Here was this midget in a Santa Claus hat beating on the pro wrestling expert. I finally broke away from him and ran out of the room. But he followed me out now carrying a hammer. I didn't know whether to run or fight back. Finally, someone subdued him and took him away.

The entire incident went under review from the college station management and faculty advisor. I was given a slip on the wrist for saying an obscenity over the air, albeit provoked, and Lester was told to stay away from me and prohibited from calling my show again.

Looking back on that incident today always makes me laugh. It was the first time I realized the power you have over the radio. But it made me realize the responsibility one has broadcasting to the public. Even though I said something under my breath it still went out on the air. The little guy was laughed at for hours until he snapped, and attacked me. Today, each week I try to be fair with everyone, hearing them out, and making them speak their piece. And no matter how mad I've ever gotten at someone over the air, or frustrated over a technical problem at the station, I'm proud to say I've never uttered another obscenity on the air. All I have to do is think of the midget with the hammer and I laugh myself back to self control.

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